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Volume 9, Issue 45



Study advises creating EMS district

By Jonathan Richie
Oshkosh Herald

A study commissioned by Town of Algoma and City of Oshkosh officials calls for the municipalities to merge fire and EMS services in an effort to save money and keep both areas covered.

Oshkosh covered 70% of the costs of the study, which was $29,044.07, and the remaining portion of the costs were covered by Algoma. McMahon Associates spent the last year evaluating both departments.

The Oshkosh communications and engagement division (OCE) said the study was to evaluate the fire and EMS operations of both municipalities.

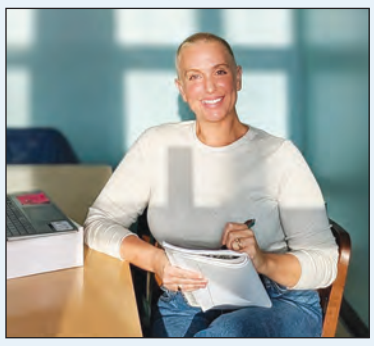
"The goal of this project is to evaluate whether a joint approach could help both communities continue providing the high-quality fire and EMS services residents expect while addressing increasing costs, service demands and other operational challenges," the OCE said in a statement. "Wisconsin's municipal funding structure creates challenges for communities as the cost of providing essential services continues to increase."

The 71-page study recommends the Town of Algoma Fire Department (ToAFD) merge with the Oshkosh Fire Department.

"Like many fire and EMS agencies nationwide, both departments are operating in an increasingly complex environment, rising call volumes, more demanding incident types, workforce challenges, aging facilities and apparatus, and growing community expectations for rapid, high-quality service," the report states. "In contrast, regional collaboration is no longer simply an option; it is becoming a strategic necessity."

See **Study results** on Page 9

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New clinic opens in Oshkosh
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Report reveals OASD addressing truancy issues

By Jonathan Richie
Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education received the Oshkosh Police Department annual report on school resource officers (SROs) within the district last month and the most discussed topic in the report was truancy.

SROs work in both OASD high schools and the four middle schools. They also provide intermittent coverage at elementary schools within the district. The current contract, which was signed in July, is for three years. The district and City of Oshkosh split the costs, which will cost the district $305,000 annually.

OPD Captain Andrew Lecker said the agency is currently understaffed and that includes the SROS, so there are currently five SROs covering Oshkosh schools.

"The SRO Program is designed with several key objectives in mind, fostering

See **Truancy issues** on Page 8



Photo by Michael Cooney

Voters took to the polls Nov. 3 to cast ballots in the general election. Polling places welcoming voters included the Oshkosh Seniors Center.

Democrat Rippl wins county sheriff race

Democrats win trifecta in state government

By Jonathan Richie
Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh area voters went to the polls last week and elected Wisconsin's next governor, the next Winnebago County Sheriff and reelected a state representative in a rematch from 2024.

Democrats won many of the key contests, including regaining the majority in the state legislature for the first time in 16 years.

Winnebago County voters elected Democrat Jason Rippl to serve as sheriff for the next four years. He defeated Republican Darin Rice by 3,705 votes.

"The campaign may be over, but the important work is just beginning," Rippl stated in a social media post on Nov. 4, the day after the election. "I'm ready to roll up my sleeves, get to work, and bring practical leadership and positive change to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office."



Rippl

Sheriff John Matz, a Republican, was first elected in 2010 and served as the county's top law enforcement official for 16 years. Both Rippl and Rice work in the sheriff's office under Matz's leadership. Rippl is currently a patrol officer.

"I am proud of the campaign we ran and grateful for the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people throughout Winnebago County," Rice said in a social media post. "I congratulate Jason on his victory and wish him success as he takes on this important responsibility."

Rippl collected 36,398 votes across the county compared to Rice's 33,323. There were also 55 unresolved write-in votes in the contest.

Danielle Falesnik, an independent, dropped out of the race in August, after the primary had been held, but she had already earned a spot on the ballot. Despite dropping out of the race, she still gathered 2,164 votes in the general election.

See **Election results** on Page 13



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Oshkosh Herald

Community support

Karen Schneider, publisher of Winnebago Media Group, accepts a $2,000 donation from Mee Yang, president of Hmong Service Center, to support local journalism.

Retired Educators to host Community Clothes Closet

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Retired Educators' Association invites all retired school employees who live in and/or worked in Winnebago County to their next meeting.

Registration for the meeting starts at 11 a.m. Nov. 19 at Pizza Ranch in Oshkosh. Pizza Ranch is located at 1051 S. Washburn St.

Following a business meeting at 11:30 a.m., members can eat the buffet lunch.

Meagan LaGrone, operations director at the Community Clothes Closet, will speak about the charity. A list of donations can be found at communityclothescloset.org.

The group will also have its annual holiday monetary donation for Park View Health Center.

In addition, this will be the final collection of school supplies for the Teachers' Closet.

Potential new members or visitors are always welcome. Anyone interested can email Lisa at rolson3430@aol.com no later than Monday for more information.

Reimer Jewelers welcomes new, familiar owner

Oshkosh Herald

Rachel Wagner is stepping into the role of owner of Reimer Jewelers.

Wagner is a familiar face to many of the store's customers, having been a sales associate at Reimer Jewelers for the past six years.

Reimer Jewelers was established in 1952 by Herb and Helen Reimer. In 1989, Herb and Helen Reimer passed the business to their daughter, Susan Reimer Snider, who had worked in the family business for many years before taking on the role of owner.



Wagner

In turn, Snider sold the business to Paul Wagner, who had joined the Reimer family in 1999. Since then, Paul Wagner and his wife, Lauri, have worked side by side to lead the business, continuing a tradition of family ownership and service that has defined Reimer Jewelers for generations. Now, the story continues with the next generation.

Like those who came before her, Rachel Wagner sees this transition as a natural progression — one that carries forward the Reimer tradition of quality fine jewelry, extraordinary customer service and lasting relationships.

For more than seven decades, Reimer Jewelers has been part of the community, serving generations of customers who have turned to Reimer Jewelers for the jewelry that marks life's most meaningful moments.

Engagements, anniversaries, birthdays, milestones and memories have all become part of the Reimer story.

At the same time, Reimer Jewelers has frequently championed many charitable causes throughout the Oshkosh area with their consistent support.

Wagner is honored to continue that tradition and build upon the legacy that has been entrusted to her. Like her father before her, Wagner invites customers to come in and leave as part of the Reimer family.

To learn more about Reimer Jewelers, visit reimerjewelers.com or visit the store located at 11 Waugoo Ave.

Back in the Day

Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

November 20, 1958

Badger awarded Oldsmobile Franchise: Catch a glimpse at the lineup of new 1959 Oldsmobiles at the new Badger Oldsmobile dealership at its grand opening this weekend. Badger is the exclusive Olds dealer for the City of Oshkosh and throughout Winnebago County. President Bob Neitzel brings 22 years of experience from his tenure at Dahl Motors.



November 20, 1958

The '59 Oldsmobile line features increased passenger and luggage space and two completely new Rocket engines. For 1959, Oldsmobile is offering 15 body styles in its Dynamic "88," Super "88" and "98" series. The new models will all be on display at the "Rocket Corner" located at Main and Irving.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern,

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Kathryn Zilz Benner
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Photo by Jim Koepnick

Groups from throughout the community are invited to participate in the Downtown Oshkosh Holiday Parade, which is scheduled to start at 6:15 p.m. Nov. 19.

Downtown holiday parade gets moved up two weeks

By Emme Hornung
Herald Contributor

The Downtown Oshkosh Holiday Parade, sponsored by Amcor, will be kicking off the Christmas cheer a little early this year.

The traditional holiday season event will take place Nov. 19 with activities starting at 6 p.m.

A free community event, this year's theme is Winter Wonderland. Dozens of local businesses with decorated floats, dance groups in costume, marching bands and more will be hitting Main Street starting at 6:15 p.m. The fan-favorite Oscar Mayer Wienermobile will be returning this year.

To kick the parade off, the traditional tree lighting ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. at Opera House Square, along with festive live music.

After the holiday parade was cancelled in 2025 due to dangerously cold weather, this year's event is scheduled a couple weeks earlier.

"It's in November, so we're hoping for good weather, and I think it will be a good sweet spot of the holiday time," said Anna Murphy-Pociask, marketing coordinator at Discover Oshkosh. "And the route is going to be back to the regular route. In previous years with the construction of the Main Street bridge, it was moved up, but we have our regular route now. So, we're back to normal and we're excited to get it rolling."

Community members can get involved through all kinds of volunteer opportunities, from talent staging, balloon managers, parade coordination and much more.

"All of our opportunities are online for anybody that wants to get involved," Murphy-Pociask added.

The holiday fun won't stop there. Downtown Oshkosh will get a special visit from live reindeer from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 12 at Opera House Square. Another free, family-friendly event, Reindeer on the Square, sponsored by Verve, will also feature live music, warm cocoa and cookies, and letters to Santa.

To learn more about the holiday parade or find volunteer opportunities, visit visitoshkosh.com/downtown/downtown-oshkosh-holiday-parade or get updates by following the Discover Oshkosh Facebook page.

Tickets on sale, speaker announced for annual EAA Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet

Oshkosh Herald

The annual EAA Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet on Dec. 11 will pay homage to the American Heritage Museum's Consolidated PBY-5A Catalina, which is currently on display in the EAA Aviation Museum's Eagle Hangar.

Attendees will be able to dine near the aircraft while Rob Collings, executive director and chief pilot of the Collings Foundation, speaks on the history of the aircraft and restoration process.

The American Heritage Museum's Consolidated PBY Catalina is considered one of the most historic surviving PBYs and the most successful Allied patrol aircraft of WWII. Built in 1941 as one of the first PBY-5As, it flew anti-submarine patrol and air-sea rescue missions, earning a remarkable combat record that included 3.5 U-boat kills.

ItEAA's annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet honors the Wright brothers' successful flights at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on Dec. 17, 1903, that began the era of manned flight.

Tickets for the event are available online at EAA.org/WrightBrothers and are $85 for EAA members and $100 for nonmembers. Doors open at 5 p.m. Dec. 11 with the dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation immediately following dinner.



Man who fired into teenagers' car gets prison sentence

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man will spend the next five years in prison after firing multiple gunshots into a car full of teenagers.

Vincent M. Graham was sentenced last week to five years in prison followed by five years of extended supervision. He was found guilty of one count of recklessly endangering safety after pleading no contest in Aug. 10.


Graham

Graham, 21, was initially charged with four additional counts of recklessly endangering safety and one count of child abuse. The additional charges were dismissed but read in to the record for sentencing purposes.

Winnebago County Judge Michael Rust stated early in his remarks that there are rules to gun safety and one of those is never point a gun at something you're not willing to destroy.

"Mr. Graham, you were willing to destroy multiple lives," Rust said before handing down the five-year prison sentence.

Court documents state an altercation in a Walmart parking lot led to Graham chasing down a vehicle with five teenagers inside and resulted in Graham firing multiple gunshots at the vehicle. One of the passengers was struck and had non-life threatening injuries.

During the sentencing hearing on Friday, assistant district attorney Amanda Nash outlined what occurred on the evening of March 13.

It began with a verbal dispute between Graham's companions who were traveling with him, a 16-year-old and 17-year-old, and the victims.

Nash stated that the companions had Graham follow the vehicle out of the parking lot so they could pepper spray the victims. Graham caught up with the vehicle on a dead end on Blake Court and eventually fired multiple gunshots at the vehicle. The criminal complaint states Graham was about 15 to 20 feet from the victim's vehicle when he pulled the trigger of his gun.

"(He) shot at a car full of teenagers, endangering the lives of five children," Nash said.

Graham's attorney, William Sulton, argued for a sentence of probation because Graham has no prior criminal record. Sulton explained that Graham was at Walmart buying groceries and was becoming a responsible young man.

Nash pointed out that Graham changed his story from when he spoke with police after the incident in March then when he recently spoke to the presentence investigation (PSI) writer. Initially Graham had said he was mad about things being thrown at his car and that's why he fired his gun.

"In his new version of events, he blames the victims," Nash said.

In the PSI, Graham stated he was scared for his life when he chased down the victim's car.

When given an opportunity to speak, Graham stated he had been in the Winnebago County Jail taking courses on anger management, critical thinking and was participating in the STAR program, which is intended to help inmates with substance abuse issues.

Graham also stated his actions that evening were "completely wrong." He concluded his remarks by stating he accepts all consequences for his actions that night.

Before sentencing Graham, Rust made an observation. Rust said during the remarks of Nash and Sulton, Graham's facial expression changed.

Rust said while Nash was relaying the facts of the case, Graham had a smirk on his face.

Rust added he had trouble thinking of more egregious circumstances for this charge before handing down the five year prison sentence.

Graham has 237 days of jail credit and Sulton said he is not contesting the restitution requests in the case. However, Rust has given the victim's another 30 days to file additional restitution requests.

ICE prisoners not held at county jail

By MaryBeth Matzek
Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department is currently holding no U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees in the county jail.

Sheriff John Matz made the announcement during the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee meeting Nov. 2 as he provided the monthly update on the county's 287(g) Warrant Service Officer (WSO) agreement with ICE. The agreement, which was signed March 3, 2025, is limited to individuals already booked into jail on criminal charges.


Matz

So far in 2026, 26 ICE detainees have been transferred to another facility or picked up by ICE. Matz said most inmates are transferred to other facilities.

In 2025, the department held 17 ICE detainees.

Sheriff-elect Jason Rippl said during his campaign that he opposed the county's participation in the 287(g) program.

Rippl was elected last week to the position and will replace Matz, who announced plans to retire after 16 years as sheriff.

The arrest of Wendy Mendez, an employee at Vel Phillips Middle School, by ICE last month while she was in Milwaukee drew renewed attention to the sheriff's department agreement with ICE during the meeting's public comment period. Several county residents spoke out against the 287(g) WSO agreement, asking the sheriff's department to reconsider its agreement with ICE.

Tanner Mann of Appleton said the department's relationship with ICE puts the sheriff's office in a bad light.

"The 287(g) agreement with ICE undermines the public trust people have in the sheriff's department," he said. "It's a historically challenging time with ICE right now and it's a stain on the community to have any cooperation with ICE."

Supervisor Kristl Laux noted that while the county did not arrest Mendez, it was still something that happened in the community and reminded people of ICE's local presence.

"I've never supported the 287(g) agreement with ICE," she said.

Charges filed against student in gun incident

By Jonathan Richie
Oshkosh Herald

Charges have been filed in juvenile court against an Oshkosh North High School student who brought a handgun to school in September.

Winnebago County District Attorney Eric Sparr said that one juvenile has been charged in the case. However, since it is a juvenile case, the details are confidential.

On Sept. 23, Oshkosh North High School went into lockdown after the school resource officer located a handgun. A 16-year-old was taken into custody shortly after the gun was located around 9:30 a.m.

The Oshkosh Police Department was initially also searching for a 17-year-old student, but Chief Dean Smith reported later on Sept. 23 that student was not in school that day.

According to officials, a 16-year-old suspect was transported to the Fond Du Lac Detention Center on preliminary charges of possession of a firearm on school grounds.

In Wisconsin, possession of a firearm on school grounds is a Class I felony with the potential penalty of 18 months in prison and up to two years of extended supervision.

All students were transported to Oshkosh West High School as part of the district's reunification plan. The district emergency preparedness collaborative operations team (EPCOT) has been reviewing practices and policy process.

"We want to make sure that we're moving forward with some urgency and also taking some time to reflect and not just a knee-jerk reaction," OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis said.

Since Oct. 7, the team has been meeting to discuss these practices. During this time, the district has also been gathering feedback from students, parents and staff. The district is expected to present new recommendations today to the Board of Education.

Those recommendations are going to be reviewed by the Facilities Committee and the Policy, Governance and Advocacy Committee this month with a school board discussion on the changes on Dec. 2. The board is then expected at its Dec. 16 to review and consider approving the policy and practice changes.

OASD assistant superintendent of operations Brian Yerkey said after the event in September his team met with every group involved, including the Wisconsin Department of Justice's Department of School Safety and the Wisconsin School Safety Coordinators Association.

"They've reviewed the incident, our plans and our response," Yerkey said.

The district is going over options, including adding metal detectors, making students have clear plastic backpacks and requiring the use of lockers, or not allowing backpacks and coats in classrooms.

"We have a pretty extensive evaluation process that we're going through and we're using the feedback and the information from the after action (meeting) and our resources with Oshkosh Police Department to make sure we make sound decisions for our district moving forward," Yerkey said.



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Photo from Winnebago County Parks Department

Shoreline protection

Rip rap was being added last week to the shores of the Asylum Point Lighthouse island to repair flood damage and washout from high water this spring. The Winnebago County Parks Department worked in conjunction with Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation on this project.

County seeks $250,000 FEMA grant

Oshkosh Herald

Winnebago County is seeking $250,000 in grant funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help with costs related to the July 27 EF3 tornado and severe storms that hit the northern part of the county.

The major disaster declaration issued on Oct. 7 for the tornado and storms made the county eligible to apply for FEMA Public Assistance funding, which provides federal reimbursement for eligible disaster-related debris removal, emergency protective measures and repair or restoration of damaged public facilities and infrastructure.

County departments are compiling their disaster-related expenditures and supporting documentation as part of the FEMA request. The Finance Department came up with the $250,000 total after accounting for applicable insurance proceeds.

The Winnebago County Judiciary & Public Safety Committee at its meeting Nov. 2 approved the resolution supporting the Finance Department's efforts to move forward on the grant request. The county's Personnel and Finance Committee also needs to approve the resolution before it goes before the county board for final approval.

Butte des Morts boat landing project delayed

By MaryBeth Matzek
Oshkosh Herald

A crane fell over when placing a new precast restroom building into place at the Butte des Morts boat landing on Oct. 12, which will delay the project's completion.

Adam Breest, director of parks and expo, shared the update during the Nov. 3 Winnebago County Parks Committee meeting. The crane damaged the building, its foundation and a nearby pay station.

The incident created a diesel and hydraulic fluid leak, which required environmental cleanup work. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources was notified, and Breest said an environmental contractor was brought in to handle the cleanup.

Breest said the county is not financially responsible for any of the costs associated with the incident, including the new bathroom, pay station or the cleanup work.

Construction on the $2.1 million boat landing project began July 5. The project includes replacing the two ramps, doubling the parking lot to 68 spaces, adding a new bathroom shelter with running water, dredging the bay to make the water deeper and adding more lighting and security cameras.

The majority of the work was expected to be completed this year with some work to be finished up next spring. The crane incident will delay the project's finish date. For example, a temporary bathroom will be placed at the site next spring until the new restroom building can be installed.

After the incident, Breest said the 160-ton crane became embedded in the ground, which required two wreckers and a larger crane to remove the equipment from the site. No one was injured when the crane tipped over.

Parking fee: The county collected a little more than $30,000 during the first year of implementing a $5 parking fee at soccer and rugby tournaments at Community Park. The money collected is intended to be used on field maintenance at the park. Most of the funds — a little more than $27,000 — was collected during the On the Water soccer tournament.

The county board approved the $5 special parking fee for the park during sporting tournaments earlier this year.

The parking fee is only charged in the area near the fields so people using other parts of the park during the sporting events do not need to pay. Also, visitors attending the sporting events who do not want to pay the $5 parking fee can park elsewhere in the park and walk over to the fields.

The Parks Committee approved a motion to spend $7,819 from the parking fees collected on grass seed and fertilizer, which will be used on soccer and rugby fields later this month. The county board will need to approve the motion before work can begin.

As part of the 2026 budget, an amendment was successfully made allowing funds collected from parking fees to be used for maintenance at the soccer and rugby complex.

"(Soccer and rugby volunteers) are the ones out there doing the sweat equity to collect the parking fees, so it makes sense that they are the ones to benefit from the dollars collected," Breest said.



Local couple honored by state Hall of Fame induction

In recognition of more than 30 years of service, Kurt and Judie Koeppler of Oshkosh have been inducted into the Wisconsin Boys & Girls Clubs Hall of Fame.

The Koepplers' unwavering commitment, visionary leadership, deep philanthropy and passionate advocacy have helped shape the growth, stability and long-term impact of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh, benefiting thousands of youth and families throughout the region.

Their induction in the Hall of Fame took place at the Hall of Fame Celebration dinner on Oct. 25, the opening event of the three-day Boys & Girls Clubs of Wisconsin Area Council Leadership Conference this year held in Fond du Lac.

"Together, Kurt and Judie embody the spirit and mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs movement," said Tracy Ogden, CEO of Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh.

"Their decades of volunteerism, philanthropy, advocacy, and servant leadership have created a lasting legacy not only within the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh, but across the broader Boys & Girls Clubs community in Wisconsin," Ogden said. "Their positive impact will continue to be felt for generations, and they are exceptionally deserving of this honor in joining the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wisconsin Hall of Fame."

Judie Koeppler's relationship with the club spans more than 35 years, beginning in 1990 when she was invited to serve as Treasurer for the Capital Campaign to construct the Radford Club, the first new location for the organization since its founding in 1970. What began as essential volunteer leadership during a pivotal moment in the club's history evolved into over three decades of support.

Judie Koeppler has remained an advocate and supporter for the club, from speaking at its annual Afternoon Tea events to inspiring community involvement and bolstering support for its area youth. She has played a pivotal role in the consistent redesign and ongoing improvement of club spaces, ensuring that facilities remain welcoming, highly functional and inspiring environments for young members.

Kurt Koeppler has served on the Board of Directors for more than 26 years, one of the organization's most dedicated champions. His leadership touches every facet of the organization, ranging from strategic planning and capital development to direct family assistance. Together with Judie, Kurt has made significant contributions to four major capital campaigns, every annual campaign, numerous special projects, and extensive in-kind donations.

Beyond Oshkosh, Kurt Koeppler served as the Board liaison for the Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area, guiding the organization through crucial developmental milestones, including the successful build of a new facility in Berlin. He also directly oversaw the 2007 construction of the Teen Center and managed multiple capital renovation projects that expanded opportunities for area youth.

"I have always felt that I've gotten much more in return than what I have given," Kurt Koeppler said. "Anytime you're having a bad day, go to the Club and watch the smiles on all the kids there. It will brighten your day. One of my favorite parts of my involvement has been the chance to meet some of the best people I have ever known. The kids make it special, and so do the volunteers, staff and families who show up for them year after year."

"Since working on the capital campaign in 1990, it has been amazing watching the club grow into what it is today," Judie Koeppler said. "It's also great talking to the staff members who make everything happen to positively impact the lives of kids. We're so honored by this recognition."

Since 2018, the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh has had seven inductees into the Wisconsin Boys & Girls Club Hall of Fame: Ron Lampe, Jamie Wilcox, Sue Ackerman, Lorie Bunke, Dave Elbing, Tracy Ogden and the Hyde Family, which includes Doug and Chrys Hyde and Peg Wachtel.



Submitted photo

Kurt and Judie Koeppler of Oshkosh were inducted into the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wisconsin Hall of Fame.

Turkey Trot moves to new location

Oshkosh Herald

This year's Festival Foods Turkey Trot in Oshkosh is moving to a new location.

The traditional Thanksgiving morning event will be at the Sunnyview Expo Center. It had previously been at the Oshkosh Seniors Center.

Packet pickup will be from 2 to 6 p.m. Nov. 25 and 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Nov. 26 at the Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Road Y.

The race begins at 8 a.m. Nov. 26 and the new course includes part of Winnebago County Community Park. Walkers and strollers are asked to line up near the back of their respective group. Dogs will line up after all other participants on the two-mile course.

Wave 1 is for five-mile runners, Wave 2 is for two-mile fun runners, Wave 3 is for two-mile walkers and Wave 4 is for the Dog Jog.

Snacks and a personal pumpkin pie will be available after participants finish their walk or run.

Event parking is available in the Sunnyview Expo parking lot. Enter and exit the parking lot through Gate 1 off County Road Y.

Regular registration through Nov. 22 is $35 for adults, $15 for youth under 18 and $5 for a dog. Race week registration from Nov. 23 to Nov. 26 is $40 for adults and remains the same for youth and dogs.

The race benefits the YMCA and Boys and Girls Clubs.

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Behavioral health clinic starts care in Oshkosh

By Hope Hahn
Herald Contributor

When York Behavioral Health founder Carolynn White moved back to Wisconsin after nearly a decade out of state, it hurt her heart to see how difficult it was for people to access mental healthcare.

She started taking inventory, which included looking at the challenges, the constraints, the needs and the resources. Not to mention asking questions like: What was available? What wasn't working? What might she be overlooking?

From that moment on she started to get creative, but really the technique isn't any different from the one she uses when working with individuals, couples and families. She looks at what is happening and gets curious about how things have come to make sense in their unique situation. Then, she explores the patterns, the relationships, the resources and the possibilities.

"We don't necessarily need to replace the people or change all the circumstances to create something different," White said. "Sometimes we can take the very same pieces, bring them together differently and discover possibilities that weren't visible before."

Next, she looked at the community through the same lens. Finally, she came to the conclusion that the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh has a graduate Clinical Mental Health Counseling program.

In 2022, she reached out to the university about creating a clinical training site. And then she waited – for four years.

Then, earlier this year, the opportunity came together and two graduate-level clinicians wanted to work in Oshkosh. First Congregational Church helped find office space, and on Sept. 10, York Behavioral Health opened its doors at 137 Algoma Boulevard.

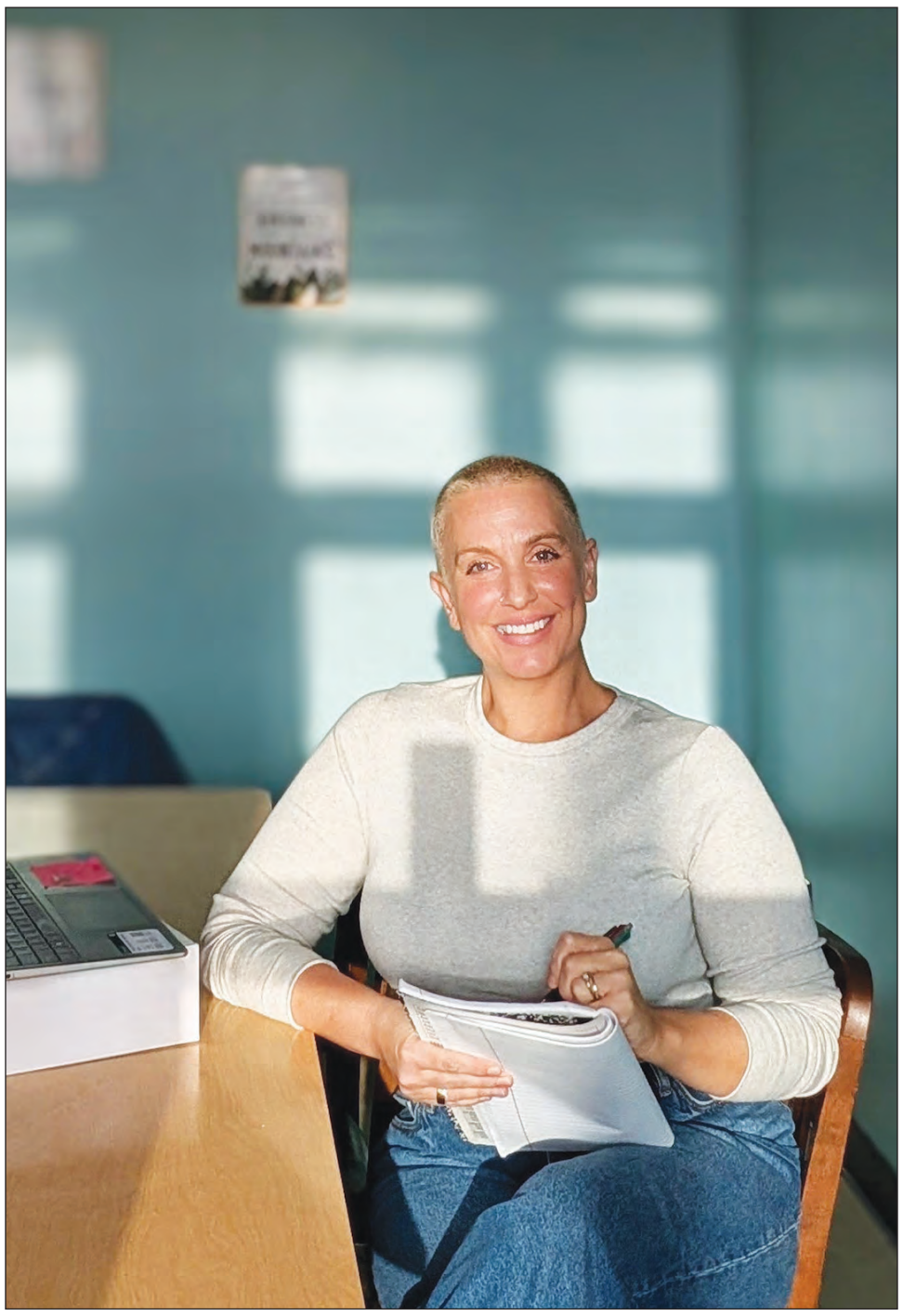
About a week later, White posted in a few Facebook groups. Within 24 hours, 17 people reached out looking for therapy.

They were able to offer every single one of them a session. For those 17 people who needed mental healthcare, instead of being placed on a months-long waitlist, each had an opportunity to begin.

"We offer individual, couples and family therapy in Oshkosh and virtually throughout Wisconsin," White said. "Services are by donation. People pay what they can, including nothing at all."

And here's what she really wants community members and community organizations to know: they're here and accepting new clients.

"We want to bridge gaps, reduce barriers and increase access to mental healthcare," White said. "We're operating with a no-waitlist model. We still have openings for individual therapy, and as those appointments fill, our plan is to begin offering groups, and so people can connect with care rather than spend months waiting for an appointment."



Submitted photo

Carolynn White started York Behavioral Health in Oshkosh to provide low-cost and no-cost mental health counseling services with no waitlists.

She said some people might have hesitations about group therapy. Sitting in a room with other people and talking about personal experiences might feel a little uncomfortable. But White said in groups, there are things a therapist can help somebody explore that they simply cannot recreate in individual therapy.

"So much of what people experience happens in relationships; how we communicate, how we respond to conflict, how we connect with others, how we understand ourselves in relation to the people around us," White said. "In a group, those very dynamics come to life. We have opportunities to recognize patterns, experiment with different ways of interacting, receive feedback and discover possibilities that might never emerge in a one-on-one conversation."

Group therapy isn't simply individual therapy with more people in the room, White said. It's an entirely different opportunity for growth. But she said sometimes that very discomfort opens the door to something extraordinary. So, even if group therapy isn't something somebody imagined for themself, White hopes that people can remain curious about what it might offer.

"Because our goal isn't simply to fill appointments; it's to create opportunities for people to access meaningful care, connect with others and begin moving forward," White said. "I don't want to just provide more therapy. I want to help create a happier, healthier, more resilient, more connected community. A community that's thriving. A community with vitality."

Providing more therapy and creating that kind of community are two very different goals. Introducing 20 more therapists, creating more programs and offering hundreds of additional appointments is one way to give people access to care, which White said is important.

White said in terms of the clinic's teaching model, she wants their graduate-level clinicians to develop more than a collection of techniques.

"I want them to be curious, to recognize patterns, ask questions, challenge assumptions and discover possibilities," White said. "I want them to love this work, to experience its creativity, connection and meaning. I do not want them surviving an exhausting system, and I want the clinic itself to demonstrate those principles. We're reaching out to schools, daycares, nonprofits and community organizations to explore opportunities for collaboration, training, consultation and support."

White said the response from people seeking services has been extraordinary. Building relationships with organizations takes time. People need opportunities to get to know the organization, experience what they are doing and decide how they might be able to work together.

"I can show up," White said. "I can follow through. I can create opportunities for connection. But I can't manufacture trust or collaboration. Nor would I want to, and I don't know exactly what Oshkosh will need six months or a year from now. Communities change. Needs change. Relationships change."

So starting with therapy helps remove barriers to care and builds trust. As relationships develop, White hopes they will experiment with new initiatives, learn from one another and adapt together.

"I'm not attached to a predetermined recipe for what York Behavioral Health must become," White said. "I'm committed to what I hope we can create; a community where people feel connected and where families have support, where clinicians find joy and meaning in their work, where organizations recognize what becomes possible when they work together."



Commission recommends approval of new middle school

By Jonathan Richie
Oshkosh Herald

The City of Oshkosh Plan Commission has made a recommendation for a new middle school to be built on the site of a former elementary school.

Bray Architects is the principal contractor on the project, as they have been the Oshkosh Area School District's partner on all of the 2020 and 2025 referendum projects.

Nate Considine of Bray, the project manager for the new middle school, spoke to the Plan Commission last week about the plans.

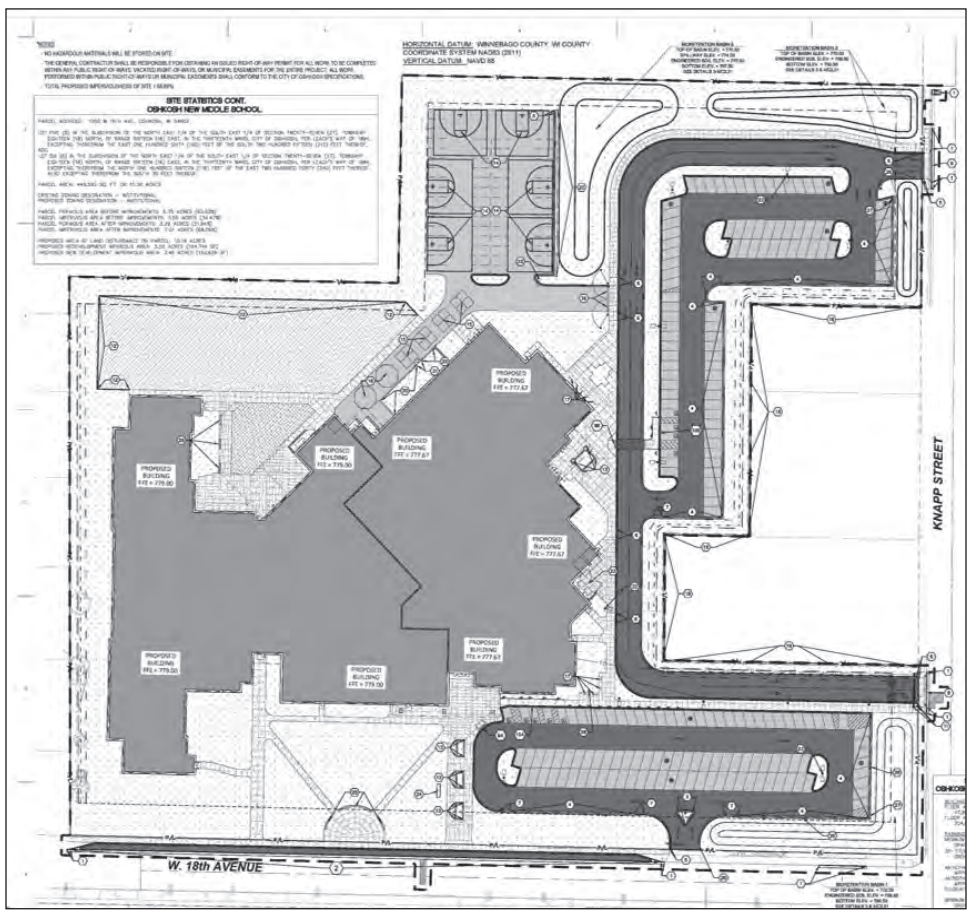
"We are simply requesting to rebuild a school on an existing school site," Considine said.

The district intends to demolish Jacob Shapiro Elementary School at the corner of Knapp Street and West 18th Avenue and build the new three-story, 204,877 square foot middle school on the site. The new middle school is part of the $197.8 million facilities referendum in 2025.

Construction is expected to begin in January, and the school is scheduled to be completed for students in the 2028-29 school year.

The Plan Commission approved recommending the conditional use permit (CUP) with no opposing votes.

The school plans meet zoning requirements and the use of the site now is a school. City staff explained that the Plan Commission will not review a site implementation plan or a general development plan.



Submitted photo

Plans are to build a new middle school on the site of Jacob Shapiro Elementary School at the corner of Knapp Street and West 18th Avenue.

The school will have a student capacity of 720 students and approximately 80 employees. Some community members have opposed the district's facilities plan, stating it creates "mega-schools" while eliminating smaller community schools.

For reference, the Neenah Middle School currently has almost 2,000 students, between fifth and eighth grade, in the former Neenah High School, according to the Neenah Joint School District.

OASD released a survey earlier this fall asking for name recommendations. Then the facilities committee narrowed it down to three options. Those options will be reviewed by the school board today at its meeting and a final naming decision will be made at the Dec. 2 board meeting.



Jonathan Richie
Reporter/ Assistant Editor

The finalists for the middle school's name are Lewis Hine Middle School, Paul Poberezny Middle School and Quarry Park Middle School.

OASD officials initially planned to build the new middle school on the South Park Middle School site, but they scrapped those plans weeks before the referendum vote because of a county-level zoning change related to the Wittman Regional Airport runway.

A neighborhood meeting was held on Aug. 18. Some neighbors had concerns about traffic congestion and parking. The Plan Commission also discussed the traffic flow and the drop-off and pick-up situation that can plague schools.

"This is really thoughtful, the way you've solved the drop-off/pick-up problem here. The way you've separated the buses," said Ed Bowen, a Plan Commission member. "Just eye-balling it, I think this is one of the smarter plans I've seen from that standpoint, in a really long time."

The design shows that drop-off and pick-up will keep parents and buses separate to limit congestion.

The CUP will be on an upcoming common council meeting agenda for the middle school.

Truancy issues

from Page 1

a proactive approach to safety and interaction with the school community," the report states.

The program encourages SROs to actively engage with students, parents, teachers and school staff.

The report shows the number of cases the SROs investigated throughout the 2025-26 school year broken down by school. Even though the SROs investigate these cases, it does not mean the incident originated on school property.

"There's been a lot of work in this district with SROs and the role in how we manage students and what the role of administrators is and what the role of SROs is," OASD assistant superintendent of operations Brian Yerkey said.

The report states that SROs' "primary role within schools is to enforce the law and investigate crimes, which may include incidents occurring both within and outside the school setting."

OPD Lt. Brett Robertson gave an example of a student coming into school the day after an incident happened in their home and then an SRO would begin to investigate that incident.

"SROs are informally regarded as counselors, teachers, mentors and mediator, establishing trust and providing support," the report states.

One major issue detailed in the report was truancy numbers. Yerkey noted there were inconsistencies when looking at the truancy numbers based on schools.

"We're working right now with our buildings to make sure they have quality action plans that address truancy," Yerkey said.

He noted that giving out a citation for truancy is the last resort after reaching out to the parents of a student. Yerkey said there were 588 formal truancy hearings at Oshkosh North High School alone during the 2025-26 school year.

The team at Oshkosh North goes through a process to meet with families and asks them "what do you need, as a family and as a student, to be able to come to school," Yerkey said.

These meetings use collaborative problem solving to find the root of why a student isn't attending school, which can span from clothing and food to transportation.

"The primary purpose of this truancy meeting is collaborative problem-solving, moving beyond basic compliance to understand the root causes of a student's absences," OASD communications director Katie Nieman said. "During and following these meetings, the team works together to create an attendance agreement, adjust academic placements or personal supports, and connect the student and family with targeted, wrap-around resources to help remove specific barriers."

Oshkosh North had the most truancy citations with 134, Vel Phillips Middle School was next with 80, followed by Oshkosh West High School with 36.

This figure represents, "the subset of situations where – after all school-based interventions, support services and formal meetings – continued unexcused absences led to an SRO-issued truancy citation as a last resort," Nieman said.

School board member Barb Herzog made some comments during a board meeting last month regarding attendance and that a snowball effect can occur in the classroom when a student misses one or two days every week and they fall behind on the curriculum and assignments.

"Because that child gets behind on assignments, it has an impact on the entire classroom because that teacher is trying to get those kids up to speed, get those assignments in on time so they don't impact the grade," Herzog said. "So, while attendance might seem like it's an individual issue, it does have a ramification for the entire class."

Herzog volunteers in the schools and said that students sometimes miss school because their parents need a babysitter.

"So that upper elementary or middle school kid is asked to stay home to take care of a younger sibling or step sibling," Herzog said. "Those are serious issues."

Yerkey said it's a three-legged stool that is needed to ensure kids are in the classroom; community, parents and school.

"First of all, we need to have parents that are invested in their kids' education," he said.

Herzog added, "The kids have to feel that being in school adds value to what they're doing."

Board member Molly Smiltneek asked that OPD include citations numbers in the report so the board would know how many citations have been issued during the school year.

The report also includes information regarding a number of programs SROs take part in throughout the year, including the D.A.R.E. program that is designed to inform students on drug use.

There's also the week-long Youth Leadership Camp where students learn about community service projects and the Step Up program that addresses issues kids face such as homework truancy and relationships.



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Oshkosh Public Library will celebrate its new Makerspace at a Nov. 18 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Library plans to hold Makerspace ribbon cutting

Oshkosh Public Library will celebrate the opening of its new Makerspace with a community open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The event begins at 3 p.m. Nov. 18 with networking and tours, followed by a 3:30 p.m. ribbon cutting led by the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce.

The Makerspace gives patrons free access to creative tools and technology that can be costly to purchase, difficult to store or challenging to learn. With equipment and support from library staff, patrons can build new skills, try new ideas and make something their own.

"Not everyone has a 3D printer in the garage," said Library Director Darryl Eschete. "The library has always opened doors to learning. The Makerspace puts these tools within reach of everyone who's curious to try something new."

The Makerspace's first phase includes Bambu Lab 3D printers, a Cricut Explore 3 cutting machine, a Cricut Mug Press, a button maker and a variety of craft supplies. Open house guests can see the equipment, learn how to reserve time and earn the required badges, and get ideas for what they can create.

The space is designed to grow. During the next six months, the library plans to add a heat press, sewing and embroidery machines, a large-format printer, a forming machine, a laser engraver and cutter, a CNC router and a sublimation printer.

Oshkosh Rotary contributed $19,200 to help make the project possible. Digital Services Librarian Emillie Cieslewicz led the project team.

"We are grateful to Rotary for investing in this vision," Eschete said. "Their support helped bring a community priority to life, and we're only getting started."

The library identified the Makerspace as a community priority through its 2025 strategic planning process, which included three focus groups and a survey completed by more than 1,100 people. The new space expands access to tools, technology and opportunities for people to learn together.

Study results

from Page 1

The report shows that OFD EMS calls to Algoma have been rising since 2021 from less than 280 calls annually five years ago to around 330 calls in 2025. The call volume for OFD has increased recently with annual incident responses exceeding 10,600. Just under 1,400 of those calls are outside of Oshkosh.

Both ToAFD and OFD respond to far more EMS calls than fire calls. Last year, OFD reported that 85% of its calls are for EMS and the McMahon study states 79% of their 2025 calls were for EMS.

Potential state grant opportunities through the Innovation Fund related to creating an EMS district could bring just over $6 million to the municipalities over the first four years of the district.

It would be close to $205,000 for Algoma and just under $5.7 million for Oshkosh.

This is at a time when McMahon believes there could be a budget shortfall of $1.5 million for EMS services next year and possibly as much as a $2 million shortfall by 2028.

Merging the departments would mean fundamental changes for both departments as ToAFD is a volunteer department with personnel being on call for dispatches compared to the full-time personnel in the OFD.

The study outlines a five-phase plan to merge ToAFD and OFD. The first phase would be creating the EMS district. The remaining three phases would strengthen critical operations integrate prevention, support and administrative functions and unifying development, staffing and station strategy.

The fifth and final phase of the plan laid out by McMahon Associates is full integration of both departments. This would mean a single fire chief, budgets would be consolidated, new branding for the unified department and finalizing the governance model of the EMS district.

"The study also found that support for full organizational consolidation is still developing among elected officials and stakeholders," the study states.

It states a phased approach is "the most practical path forward."

A workshop was held on Oct. 22 at the Oshkosh Seniors Center for members of the Algoma Town Board and the Oshkosh Common Council to review the study and its findings.

A representative from McMahon Associates said that public safety demands will continue to rise for Algoma and Oshkosh, financing public safety will continue to be a challenge and that volunteer fire departments will continue to have staffing issues.

On Oct. 27, the Oshkosh council approved an ambulance agreement with Algoma. The agreement states if Algoma needs an ambulance, the OFD would send a paramedic ambulance with two paramedics. The contract was approved as part of the consent agenda and is scheduled to end in 2029.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer said the level of service would not change if a district is created and that it would not have any effect on the taxpayer. He added that this is not an annexation of Algoma into Oshkosh.

"This is not about any sort of annexation efforts," Mugerauer said.

The council requested that city staff move forward with the EMS district.

Last year the Oshkosh Common Council voted to end the EMS agreement with 10 municipalities in the area, including Winneconne. That decision led to those communities no longer covered by Oshkosh to create the Southern Winnebago Emergency Medical Services (SWEMS) district.

Oshkosh Fire Department officials came to the council and stated it did not have the personnel to cover the 10 municipalities surrounding Oshkosh. Seven municipalities have not been covered since January, including Poygan, Rushford and Utica along with the city and town of Omro and the town and village of Winneconne.

Algoma, Black Wolf and Nekimi were kept under contract until the end of this year. Algoma is the only town that could be covered by Oshkosh if the Algoma and Oshkosh district is created.

The Town of Algoma is having a special board meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday to discuss the study. The board will receive an overview of the McMahon study and discuss elements of the study.

Then there will be time for public comment. An action item will be considered to direct staff to proceed with drafting a joint EMS district with Oshkosh.









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Submitted photo

Memorial unveiled

Randy Domer of Winnebago County Historical and Archaeological Society presented the unveiling of the society's memorial to the Winnebago County institutions such as The Poor House, The Poor Farm, Sunnyview Sanitarium and The Asylum. The institutions provided care to the disadvantaged in Winnebago County as early as the 1840s under early Oshkosh resident Joe Jackson.

Event explores collaboration for cookbook creation

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago Area Literacy Council will host an upcoming Immigration Learning Circle event.

The "Global Taste, Local Collaboration: Experiential Learning That Goes Both Ways" session will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Nov. 19 at 111 N. Main St., Suite 202.

During this session, attendees will learn about the collaboration behind the group's upcoming cookbook featuring the stories and recipes of WALC women.

Attendees will also hear from WALC Executive Director Chu May Paing; Ula Klein, director of the UWO Women's and Gender Studies Department and Klein's students as they share insights about this unique partnership and the impact of their work together.

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Calendar of events

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day Breakfast, 8 a.m., Military Veterans Museum

Thursday, Nov. 12

Hope Rising: Celebrating 25 Years of HOPE, 5:30 p.m., Culver Family Welcome Center

Panorama Arts Collective presents "The Bench: A Play in Four Seasons," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Friday, Nov. 13

Fall Festival, 5:30 p.m., Valley Christian School

Oshkosh West One Act Play "As If, Cassandra," 6 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Friday the 13th Part 8 (Jason Takes Manhattan), 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Saturday, Nov. 14

Craft Fair and Vendor Fair, 9 a.m., Vel Phillips Middle School Festival of Trees, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Festival of Trees, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Oshkosh Indoor Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

The Man Behind the Camera: A Photographer's Perspective, 11 a.m., Oshkosh Public Museum

Oshkosh Garden Club Scholarship Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Oshkosh Country Club

Panorama Arts Collective presents "The Bench: A Play in Four Seasons," 2 and 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Cranksgiving Benefit Ride, 3:15 p.m., Becket's

Lourdes Academy Gala, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Oshkosh West One Act Play "As If, Cassandra," 6 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Metallica with Dokken Tribute Show, 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh

Sunday, Nov. 15

Festival of Trees, 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Panorama Arts Collective presents "The Bench: A Play in Four Seasons," 2 p.m., Time Community Theater

Oshkosh Youth Symphony presents "Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead," 3:30 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Monday, Nov. 16

Festival of Trees, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Festival of Trees, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Red Kettle Kick Off, 4:30 p.m., The Salvation Army of Oshkosh, 417 Algoma Boulevard

Boys and Girls Club of Oshkosh Youth of the Year Dinner, 5:30 p.m., Oshkosh Marriott Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center

Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Wednesday, Nov. 18

Festival of Trees, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Oshkosh Service Club Expo, 4 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Thursday, Nov. 19

Festival of Trees, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Downtown Oshkosh Holiday Parade, 6:15 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh

EAA Speaker Series: Dave Zarrella, Cape Air: Flying the East Coast, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Expo provides information about service clubs

Oshkosh Herald

Residents interested in making a difference in the community are invited to attend the Oshkosh Service Club Expo.

The event will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Nov. 18 at the Oshkosh Public Library.

Services clubs benefit the community – and their members – by supporting a wide range of initiatives in the Oshkosh area that improve quality of life. Projects and fundraising by these groups help to promote literacy, support children, assist those struggling with disabilities and offer disaster relief, among other causes. Members make connections, develop new friendships and learn more about their community.

The expo will give attendees the opportunity to learn about each club, including their mission, meeting details and membership dues.

Joe Bongers, vice president of the Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis Club and organizer of the event, knows that people want to get involved and make a difference, but understands how hard it is for busy people to find the time to learn about each group.

"Every service club in our area is doing wonderful work on behalf of the community, but each has a unique mission and focus," Bongers said. "This casual event is a great opportunity for attendees to learn more about our clubs and find one that's the best fit for their talents, passion and schedule."

This event is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be served.

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Election results

from Page 1

Desiree Bongers won her reelection bid in the Winnebago County Clerk of Courts race. The Democrat was running unopposed in the race.

All results are unofficial until the municipalities certify the votes during canvasses. Vote totals are from the Winnebago County Clerk's office and the Associated Press.

Assembly 54

Oshkosh voters reelected their representative in the State Assembly. The contest was a rematch from 2024 with incumbent Lori Palmeri facing challenger Tim Paterson.



Palmeri

Palmeri, a Democrat, defeated Paterson, a Republican, by more than 1,400 votes two years ago. Palmeri's margin of victory was larger last week as she won by more than 4,300 votes.

In a social media post after the results were confirmed, Palmeri thanked Oshkosh residents for supporting her campaign.

"I'm grateful for your trust and honored to continue serving the 54th Assembly District. Serving this community has been the privilege of a lifetime: from the Common Council to the mayor's office to the Assembly," Palmeri said. "We deserve an affordable home, to get the health care we need, and strong public schools without putting more pressure on property taxpayers."

Following the loss, Paterson thanked his supporters in a social media post.

"Although we are not happy with the results of this election, Joan and I are so happy to have made many friendships with our supporters, volunteers and constituents that we met along the campaign trail," said Paterson, who serves on the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors.

State Senate 19

In the race for state Senate in the 19th district, incumbent and Republican Rachael Cabral-Guevara won her reelection bid by 18 points as she defeated Democrat challenger Emily Tseffos.

This will be Cabral-Guevara's second term in the state Senate. She had 3,578 more votes in Winnebago County.

Assembly 55



Gustafson

Incumbent and Republican Nate Gustafson defeated Democrat challenger Alex Corrigan by 12 points in the race for the State Assembly seat in the 55th district.

Gustafson had 3,639 more votes than Corrigan in Winnebago County.

Statewide races

In statewide races, Democrats won the governor's seat and a majority of seats in the state Senate and state Assembly.

Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley defeated Congressman Tom Tiffany in the race to be Wisconsin's next governor. Across the state, Crowley won by over 215,000 votes and had 3,694 more votes than Tiffany in Winnebago County.

"We won't let you down, Wisconsin," Crowley said following his victory. "Serving as your governor will be the honor of a lifetime."

Crowley and Lt. Gov.-elect Sarah Godlewski will be sworn into office on Jan. 4.

"While this was not the outcome we had hoped for, I am grateful to everyone who supported our campaign and believed in our vision for a stronger, more affordable Wisconsin," Tiffany said. "I congratulate David Crowley on his victory. We both care deeply about Wisconsin, and I wish him and his family the very best as he prepares to serve as our next governor."

In the Attorney General race, Democrat incumbent Josh Kaul won his reelection bid and will start his third term next year. Kaul defeated Fond Du Lac County District Attorney Eric Toney in a rematch from their race in 2022, which was decided by a single percentage point. This time the margin was close to 9.5 percentage points.

The victory was a similar margin to the governor's race with almost 250,000 more votes for Kaul across Wisconsin and 4,529 votes across Winnebago County.

In other statewide races, Democrats won the seats for Secretary of State and Treasurer. JoCasta Zamarripa defeated Jay Schroeder for Secretary of State, while Yee Leng Xiong defeated John Lieber for State Treasurer.

Congressional District 6

Incumbent Glenn Grothman (R-Glenbeulah) was elected to his seventh term as the U.S. Representative from Wisconsin's Sixth Congressional District.



Grothman

He defeated Democrat Brad Smith by 9.5 percentage points and more than 30,000 votes across the district.

However, Smith had 4,209 more votes than Grothman in Winnebago County.

The race had three other candidates who combined to get a total of 3,203 votes in Winnebago County and over 12,000 votes district-wide.

Grothman was one of the Republican incumbents who held onto their seat as others, including two in Wisconsin, were defeated as Democrats gained control of the U.S. House.

Referendum questions

Three referendum questions were also on the ballot for voters that would amend the state constitution.

The amendments followed party lines with most Republicans favoring all three amendments and Democrats opposing them.

Two of the three questions passed. Voters were in favor of prohibiting the governor's partial veto power to impose taxes and that the government shall prohibit discrimination.

However, voters did not approve of a constitutional amendment to allow places of worship to stay open during public health emergencies.



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Connections help establish new Oshkosh Lions Club

By Hope Hahn
Herald Contributor



Submitted photo

The Oshkosh Lions Club is looking to add to its membership. Those interested in finding out more can attend a meeting Nov. 23 at the Oshkosh Public Library.

A group of community members is starting the Oshkosh Lions Club with the same focus as the international organization.

Lions International has eight main global service areas it focuses on: Vision, Hunger, the environment, childhood cancer, Diabetes, Humanitarian efforts, disaster relief and today's youth.

"Our new local club will be focusing on some projects aimed at the community such as food drives, vision screenings, environmental cleanups and scholarships, just to name a few," said Jay Belke, vice president of the Oshkosh Lions Club. "Being a Lion, you get to be a part of real hands-on service that changes lives."

Belke said part of joining the club is being able to network with community leaders, make new friends with like-minded people and being a part of a worldwide movement. Being a Lion is flexible; it's giving to the club what you'd like to contribute, he said.

It's not about how much money you give; it's about service and participation. Membership dues are minimal. Members have the ability to support both international and local projects, and the time that is put into it is reasonable, Belke said.

"We have had a couple of meetings, and our momentum is growing," Belke added. "We also have a district convention coming up in November in Fond Du Lac. What's cool is we created this club, and we get to do what matters most here in the community. We will be the founding members of the club. We are looking for more members."

The group will be having a meeting at 6 p.m. Nov. 23 in the conference room on the lower level of the Oshkosh Public Library.

For those interested in becoming a Lions member, they must make a commitment to community service, complete a membership application, be accepted by the club and pay the required yearly dues. Family members are encouraged to apply and pay a reduced rate for dues.

Members are not required to attend every monthly meeting. Every member is encouraged to attend meetings in order to stay informed.

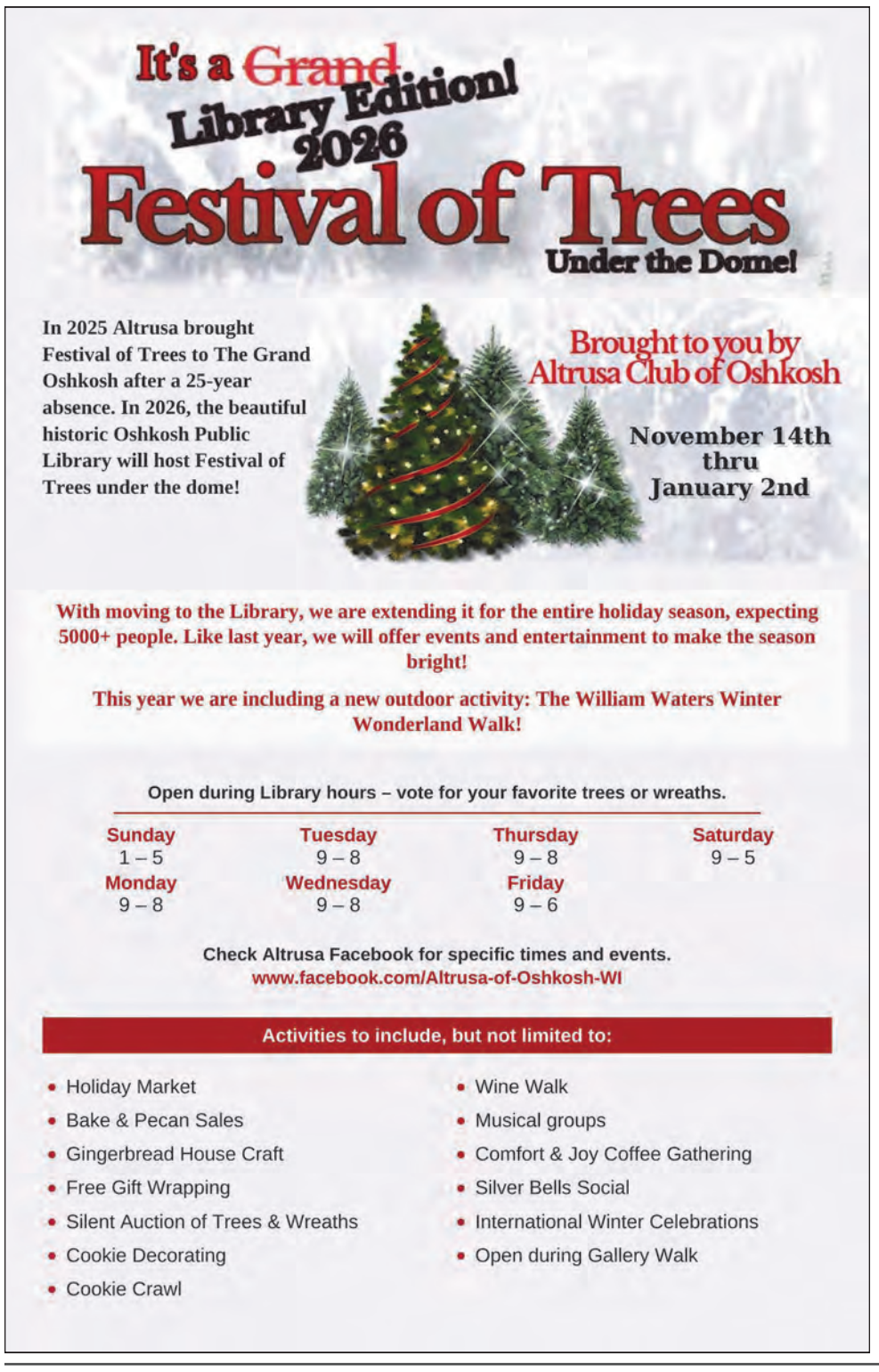
The Van Dyne Lions Club played a role in helping to establish the Oshkosh Lions Club. For the past two years, immediate Past District Governor Roxanne Wendt, Past District Governor Tom Wendt, current District Governor Barb Leichtfuss and First Vice District Governor Laurie Sasada have worked hard to bring a Lions club back to the Oshkosh area.

Last year, they reached out to potential members at the Winnebago County Fair, and this year, they continued their efforts at the Oshkosh Farmers Market. They then asked the Van Dyne Lions Club to sponsor the new Oshkosh Lions Club, with additional Van Dyne members lending their support and assistance throughout the process.

Their teamwork and commitment played a role in making the return of the new Oshkosh Lions Club possible.

The motto of the Oshkosh Lions Club is "We Serve." Members can attend any fundraising event. Currently, Oshkosh Lions Club is working on a club website; they can be found on Facebook at Oshkosh Lions Club.

Future members can also visit: The Lions International website at lionsclubs.org, and the Lions International can also be found on Facebook.







Circles of Support provides support for former inmates

By MaryBeth Matzek
Oshkosh Herald

When inmates leave prison, they often have few supports to rely on.

Some who stayed in touch with their families during their incarceration may be able to count on their support, but many start from scratch.

That's where Circles of Support come in. Led by volunteers, former inmates meet weekly for a support group where they can share their challenges, learn about community resources, focus on their future and celebrate success.

"It's a safe place where everyone can share. We start the meetings with a check-in and then discuss what's going on," said Sandy Sweeney, who joined Circles of Support in Neenah more than 20 years ago after retiring from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. "I wanted to keep helping people as they came out prison. It's a challenge to get people back into the community and be productive citizens."

Circles of Support, which operates under the umbrella of ESTHER, has support groups from Oshkosh to Green Bay. Neenah and Oshkosh each host one group a week while Appleton has two groups plus an all-women's group. The Neenah group meets at First United Methodist Church.

Lou Blasczyk, who has volunteered with Circles of Support for 15 years, said the participants uplift each other and share helpful information.

"They gain a lot of support from each other," he said.

Sweeney said volunteers share information about available resources and try to answer any questions they may have. She said volunteers also celebrate the former inmates' success, whether it's finding a job or a place to live.

"Our group members are either working or looking for work. They work hard and make good employees," she said. "Finding housing is hard since it's so expensive — well, finding housing for anyone is hard. We have found some good landlords to work with."

Volunteers sometimes meet individually with group members to provide extra support or drive them to appointments, if necessary, Blasczyk said.

Sweeney said some support group members come for multiple years while others may attend once and never return.

"We're non-judgmental. The volunteers don't tell people what to do," she said. "Everyone who comes to the support groups, even the ones who are just out of prison, has a story and something to share."

Recently released inmates in the Fox Cities may hear about Circles of Support from their probation agents, see a brochure or hear about the group from other former inmates.

As for attracting new volunteers, Sweeney said people find out about it through word-of-mouth, see one of the group's brochures or hear one of their presentations. She said volunteers come from all walks of life and often hear about the organization from current volunteers and become interested.

Volunteers bring food to the meetings, such as donuts, ham and cheese or popcorn.

"I think it's always good when you feed people at activities like this," Sweeney said. "The people who come are willing to talk and want to transition successfully back into the community."

If anyone is interested in learning more about volunteering with Circles of Support or attending a support group, they can call 920-840-2918 and leave a message or send an email to circlescanhelp@gmail.com.

EAA Aviation Museum introduces six aircraft added for display

The EAA Aviation Museum is introducing six aircraft to its exhibits in the museum, each of which has historical importance to aviation.

The aircraft include Douglas World Cruiser and Epps Monoplane replicas, the Icarus II built by John Moody, a Curtiss P-40 Warhawk and a Grumman FM-2 Wildcat on loan from the Frasca Collection, and a PBY-5A Catalina, on loan from the American Heritage Museum and Collings Foundation.

"The opportunity to be able to feature these marvelous aircraft as a part of our displays adds new stories to our already expansive collection," said Chris Henry, EAA museum director.

Aircraft added to the displays in the past several weeks include:

Douglas World Cruiser replica: The first homebuilt project by Robert Dempster, who spent 20 years to meticulously recreate one of the most legendary aircraft from the early years of flight. This full-scale replica of the 1924 Douglas World Cruiser honors the pioneers of aviation in America who succeeded in flying around the world in an airplane.

Icarus II: Created by John Moody, who is considered the father of ultralight aviation. He first flew this aircraft from a frozen lake in Long Lake, Wisconsin, on March 15, 1975. It represents a significant piece of both aviation and Wisconsin history, as it sparked a movement of popularizing ultralight recreational flight. Rebuilt by the Michigan Ultralight Association for donation to EAA.

Curtiss P-40 Warhawk: One of the most legendary aircraft of all time. Its contribution to the war effort during the first part of WWII was undeniable, allowing over 200 allied pilots to gain ace status, and achieving thousands of victories in dogfights on all fronts. Its "shark teeth" nose art is one of the most iconic images in all of aviation. Loaned from the Frasca Collection.

Grumman FM-2 Wildcat: Legendary for its aerial combat ability, boasting a seven-to-one win/loss ratio on the Pacific front. What it lacked in speed and mobility, it more than made up for in build superior quality, armor, weaponry, and incredible diving speed. Loaned from the Frasca Collection.

Consolidated PBY-5A Catalina: A hunter of German U-boats, with this particular aircraft and its crews responsible for three confirmed and U-boat sinkings severely damaging another. Another key role it filled was in search-and-rescue operations for pilots, as the amphibious Catalina could land on the water near any downed pilot. Loaned from the Collings Foundation and American Heritage Museum.

Epps Monoplane replica: This replica of the 1912 original re-creates the work of Ben T. Epps, a self-taught mechanic who became Georgia's first aviator, combining scrap timber, cotton covering, bicycle wheels, and a low-horsepower engine to construct a an open-cockpit, wire-braced, mid-wing monoplane.



EAA photo by Connor Madison

The Curtiss P-40 Warhawk on display at EAA Aviation Museum in Oshkosh is one of the most legendary military aircraft of all time. Its "shark teeth" nose art is one of the most iconic images in all of aviation.







Photo by Michael Cooney

Harvest time

Warm, dry weather has helped Wisconsin farmers bring in their corn and soybeans, but a good harvest does not necessarily mean a profitable year. Larger grain supplies are holding down prices, while fuel, drying and transportation costs cut into farmers' earnings. Allowing corn to dry naturally in the field can reduce expenses, although waiting leaves the crop exposed to changing weather.

Local college graduates

The following students from Oshkosh completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in August.

Aaron Charles Arthur Fields, Bachelor of Science, management major

Merrin Steinhilber, Bachelor of Science, radiologic science major: radiation therapy emphasis

Riley Taylor, Bachelor of Science, management major

Darnell Williams of Oshkosh graduated from Western Technical College in La Crosse from the Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement 720 Academy program

Arena football team to play in Oshkosh for 2027 season

Oshkosh Herald

An arena football team is getting ready to call Oshkosh home.

The Wisconsin Aviators will play at Oshkosh Arena this season after reaching an agreement with VenuWorks, the management company for the facility.

The indoor football organization will make Oshkosh Arena the team's home venue for the upcoming 2027 American Indoor Football (AIF) season. Founded in 2023, the Wisconsin Aviators are committed to competition, leadership, player development, community involvement and affordable family entertainment.

The team previously played in Sturtevant.

The organization's mission extends beyond the field, focusing on creating meaningful relationships with fans, sponsors, local businesses and the communities it serves.

The Aviators enter the AIF after building a championship foundation. During the organization's 2024 United Indoor Football Association (UIFA) campaign, the team completed a perfect 10-0 regular season before advancing through the postseason.

On Jan. 25, 2025, the Aviators captured the 2024 UIFA Championship with a 60-39 victory over the Knoxville Bandits.

"New Look. New Direction. New League. New Era. That's more than a slogan for our organization; it's the next step in our growth," said Wisconsin Aviators Team Owner Lawerance Peters. "We're excited to bring Wisconsin Aviators football to Oshkosh Arena and introduce fans throughout the Fox Valley and surrounding communities to the energy and excitement of American Indoor Football."

The move to Oshkosh Arena coincides with the organization's entry into the American Indoor Football league for the 2027 season. Competing in the AIF will provide the Aviators an opportunity to perform on a larger stage while expanding the organization's reach throughout Wisconsin and beyond.

Fans can expect fast-paced, high-energy indoor football combined with family-friendly entertainment and community-focused initiatives that have become hallmarks of the Aviators organization.

Open team tryouts are slated from noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 21 at Sports Emporium, 2276 Lawrence Parkway in De Pere, which will be where the team practices and holds its training camp.

Registration opens at 11 a.m. Preregistration is $50; day-off is $100. Serious athletes only. For full details, go to the Wisconsin Aviators Facebook page.

Additional information regarding the 2027 schedule, ticket packages, sponsorship opportunities and team announcements will be released in the coming months.







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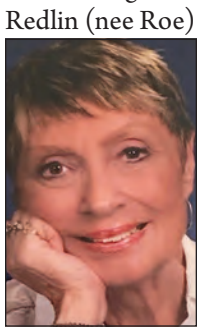
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Obituaries

Sharon Redlin

In Loving Memory of Sharon (Sherry) Redlin (nee Roe)



October 4, 1935 – November 1, 2026

Sherry Redlin, 91, passed away peacefully on November 1, 2026, following a long battle with dementia and congestive heart failure.

Born on October 4, 1935, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Sherry spent nearly her entire life in the community she called home. In 2023, she moved to St. Louis, Missouri, to be closer to her daughter Tracy and family.

Sherry believed in lifelong learning and demonstrated that it is never too late to pursue your dreams. As an adult, she returned to school and proudly earned her associate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, walking in the same graduation ceremony as her younger daughter. She was also a talented writer who fulfilled a special dream by writing and publishing a book of poetry, leaving behind a piece of herself through her words.

She had many 'girlfriend groups' that meant so much to her; The Pizza Ladies and the Birthday Group among several others. Throughout her long life she had a special spot in her heart for her many pets, jazz music and the saxophone. Sherry played tennis, golf, dabbled in the art of rosemaling and even a took a turn on the stage in a play.

We will miss all of the special Momisms like Jessica bells, pork slabs and hockey puck burgers, drives to see the fall colors and Christmas lights and of course cows.

Above all, Sherry's greatest legacy is the family she leaves behind and the memories that will continue to live on in their hearts.

She is survived by her daughters, Tracy (Jack) Grundy of St. Louis, Missouri, and Vicky Redlin (Dean Schider & son Shelby) of Oshkosh, as well as granddaughters Ashleigh (Bryce) Jones and Shannon Rera, and one great granddaughter Emma Jones.

She was preceded in death by her loving parents Lyle and Lora Roe and former husband Doug Redlin.

A funeral service for Sherry will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2026, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. Oshkosh, WI 54904 at 11:00 a.m., officiated by Rev. Maggie Berndt-Dreyer. Visitation will take place at the funeral home from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Private interment will be held at Lake View Memorial Park.

She will be deeply missed and forever loved. Rest now, no more worries, we will be alright you raised us to be strong women who "could be anything we want to be".

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Jerome Schmelz

Jerome Schmelz, 86, passed away November 3, 2026.

Arrangements provided by Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes.

Services on Nov 16, 11:00am at Peace Lutheran Church. Riverside Cemetery.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Patrick Michael McGinnis

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Patrick Michael McGinnis: beloved son, husband, father, grandfather, sibling, uncle and friend.

After a hard-fought battle with cancer, Pat passed away at his home in the town of Poygan on October 31, 2026, at the age of 62.

Pat was born at Edward's Air Force base in California. He lived most of his life in Winneconne, Wisconsin and graduated from Winneconne High School. Pat had an immense love for his family. On August 29, 1982, he welcomed his daughter Rachel into the world. He worked at Gallmar Industries as a final inspector until his retirement in 2019, but remained on a call as needed basis. He was united in marriage to Cynthia, his wife, during a beautiful ceremony at their home. The couple spent 21 years together.

Pat had a passion for Harley Davidson motorcycles and riding his bicycles on bike trails. He loved their Oriental Longhair cats. Even with his disability, Pat always strived to live life to the fullest. He enjoyed long rides on his Harley, kayaking and even did a tandem skydive. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with family, especially moments spent with his granddaughter.

Pat is survived by his mother, Catherine Nachtrab; his wife Cynthia McGinnis; daughter Rachel Thibodeau; granddaughter River Thibodeau; siblings Patricia Krumbein, Marc (Tammy) McGinnis, Robert Muehlenberg, Jennifer (Steve) Devitt, Kevin McGinnis and Corey McGinnis. He is further survived by many more extended and beloved family members and close friends.

Pat was preceded in death by his father Michael McGinnis.

A Mass of Christian burial for Pat will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 210 Pleasant Dr, Winneconne, WI 54986, officiated by Fr. Erwin Obias, on Friday, November 13, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be held at the church from 9:00 a.m. until the time of Mass. Private interment will take place at Lake View Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, if desired, the family requests that donations be made to the Specialty Purebred Cat Rescue, in honor of Pat's love for his cats, Amaya and

Meirou. Pat also appreciated the servicemen who fought for our country. In their honor, donations can be made to Winneconne American Legion or any other organizations for veterans.

Pat's family would also like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the caregivers with ThedaCare Hospice, especially Jody for their compassionate care during his final days.

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Obituaries

Lucille Ann Leher

Lucille Ann (Romano) Leher, passed on November 1, 2026, with family by her side at The Courtyard in Oshkosh, WI. She was born September 26, 1940, daughter of Fredrick and Carmel Romano. She was born and raised in New Haven, CT. After graduating high school, she went on to work in the billing department at New Haven News Agency.



She met her husband, Chuck, while he was stationed in Connecticut at Army Nike Site in West Haven, CT. They married in 1962 and returned to Oshkosh, where Chuck was born and raised. The place where he loved to hunt and fish with his dad and friends.

During the course of their marriage, they were blessed with two daughters, Laurie and Andrea and granddaughter, Olivia, what a joy!

Lucille was fortunate to be able to stay at home and raise their children and take care of the home. After her children left home to pursue their own lives, she went on to work in retail at Piggly Wiggly and Festival Foods. She enjoyed volunteering at Evergreen Manor and St. Raphael's Church, where she was a faithful member.

She loved to travel, she and Chuck took many wonderful trips together, the highlight of their travels was Hawaii. When Chuck was no longer able to travel, she took many special trips with her children and granddaughter.

In her younger years, she enjoyed bowling and bowled in a morning league called Apple Fritters. While in that league she received a trophy for the most improved bowler. She was a workout enthusiast and enjoyed being at the gym and walking.

She is survived by her daughters, Laurie (Mark) Kallas and Andrea (Douglas) Reitz; granddaughter, Olivia Kallas; brothers, Fred Romano and Michael Romano; step-grandchildren, Rich (Christy Poeschl) Reitz and Angie (Troy) Egan; she is further survived by many nieces, nephews and other friends and family.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Charles Leher; parents, Fredrick and Carmel Romano; step-grandson, Robert Reitz; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Edward and Charlotte Leher.

A private service was held at Lake View Memorial Park and burial has taken place.

Our heartfelt thanks to the caring staff at The Courtyard of Oshkosh for the compassion, kindness and loving care shown to our mother. Your thoughtfulness and support brought comfort to our family, and we will always be grateful. The family wishes to further thank and express their deepest appreciation to the hospice team at Moments Hospice for their compassionate care, understanding and support. Your kindness and dedication meant so much to our mother and our family.

God saw she was getting tired, and a cure was not to be;

So he put His arms around her, and whispered, "Come with me."

With tearful eyes we watched her suffer and saw her fade away.

Although we loved her dearly, we could not make her stay.

A golden heart stopped beating, hard-working hands to rest;

God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best!

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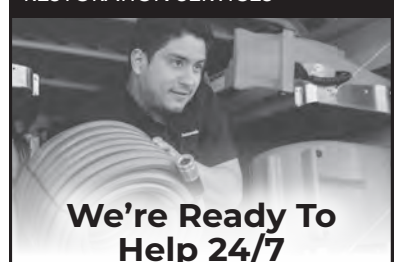
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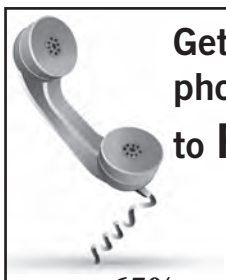
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Obituaries

Steven Allan Tesch



Steven Allan Tesch, age 73, was born and raised in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to Herbert and Lu Tesch. As the oldest son, Steve grew up in a family that would remain an important part of his life. Throughout the years, he built lasting friendships, made countless memories, and found joy in the things he loved most: his family, sports, music, and spending time with the people who meant the most to him.

On March 11, 1983, Steve married the love of his life, Catharine Meredith. Together, they built a life and raised three children, Barbara, Eric, and Brian. Family was at the heart of Steve's life, he was a proud godfather and one of his greatest joys was becoming a grandfather. He especially treasured his ten grandchildren, and he loved attending their activities, cheering them on, and being present for the moments that mattered to them. His pride in his family was evident, and the memories they shared will remain a lasting part of his legacy.

Steve's love of sports began long before he became a devoted Milwaukee Brewers and Green Bay Packers fan. He played football and baseball in high school and continued playing beyond those years. Over time, he became part of several baseball and fast-pitch softball teams, including Mueller Chrysler, Evil Roy Slades, Reds Pizza, and Witzkes. He was proud of the teams he played for and the friendships formed along the way. Sports were more than a pastime for Steve; they were a lifelong passion that brought people together and gave him plenty of stories to share.

Outside of sports, Steve had an impressive knowledge of music trivia, often knowing more than most. He enjoyed a variety of activities and traditions, including bowling, weekend camping trips with family and friends, the annual Greater Beecher Open and other golf outings, hunting at the cabin, and attending Hodag. Whether gathered around a campfire, spending time outdoors, or enjoying a weekend away, Steve appreciated the simple pleasures of being with good people and making memories.

Steve had a way of making friends wherever he went. There seemingly wasn't anyone who didn't enjoy his company, and often it seemed like he knew everybody. He could strike up a conversation with just about anybody, whether it was through bartending at TNT or sharing a beverage at a local establishment. As a longtime member of Elks Lodge #292, Steve enjoyed the camaraderie and friendships that came with being part of the organization. He especially loved his trip to Ireland, creating memories he would always treasure. He understood that some of life's best moments didn't require anything elaborate, just familiar faces, a good conversation, and time together.

Steve will be deeply missed by his wife, Catharine; his children, Barbara (Eric), Eric (April), and Brian (MacKenzie); and his ten beloved grandchildren, Madysen, Sophia, Grayson, Carly, Ellie, Keira, Nelson, Lofton, Porter, and Turner. He is also survived by his brothers, Dan Tesch, Larry (Michele) Tesch, and Jim (Sue) Tesch, all of Oshkosh; his sister, Judy (Kevin) Winkler of Darboy, Wisconsin; father-in-law, Thomas Meredith; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Herbert and Lu Tesch, mother-in-law Barbara Meredith, brothers-in-law Michael Meredith, Bradley Harring, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and son-in-law Joshua Probst.

A celebration of life will be held from 3-6 PM on Thursday, November 12 at La Sure's Banquet Hall. In honor of Steve's lifelong passion for sports, the family invites you to wear your favorite sports apparel to the celebration. Burial services will be private.

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Rose Marie Magnuson



Rose Marie Magnuson " Rambling Rose", 63, passed away on November 1, 2026. She was born July 28, 1963 to the late Phillip and Janice (George) Magnuson in Oshkosh, WI.

Rose was one of those curious individuals who was able to retain the youthful spirit of childhood wonder throughout her entire life. The simplest of activities were enough to dazzle her, and in turn pull anyone near her vicinity into that thoughtless and selfless joy that is the thirst for life. Bonfires, bird watching, animals, puzzles , Yahtzee, fishing, camping, etc. Having such an enthusiasm for life is a beautiful and highly contagious attribute, and her ability to take a normal mundane day and bring it to life with the simplest of pleasures is one of the greatest gifts she gave to those around her.

Rose is survived by her daughter, Jennifer (Nate) Engler; son, Tanner Schlender; four grandchildren, Jasmine and Lilly Engler, and Ben and Addi Schlender; siblings, Rev. Michael (Dianne) Magnuson, Tina Magnuson, Debbie (Dennis) Schimke, Lynn (Jim) Taugher, nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Rose was preceded in death by her brother, Danny Magnuson, one aunt Valeria Wolff, and one uncle Adelbert George.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Faith Christian Center 939 Bowen Street in Oshkosh on Sat. November 14, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Michael Magnuson officiating. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m. prior to the 11:00 a.m. service and a meal to follow.



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
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WINNEBAGO COUNTY
Case No. 2026CV000896

MARK WORTHINGTON BELLAMY, and WRS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC,
Plaintiffs,
v.
DYLAN A. DIERSEN, and WISCONSIN RENTAL SOLUTIONS LLC,
Defendants.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a Defendant:
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiffs named above have filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint states the nature and basis of the legal action.
Within forty (40) days after October 28, 2026, you must respond with a written answer to the complaint as provided in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes.

The answer must be filed with the Winnebago County Circuit Court, whose address is:
Clerk of Circuit Court
Winnebago County Courthouse
415 Jackson Street
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901
You must also send or deliver a copy of your answer to the Plaintiffs at the address stated below.
You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not provide a proper answer within the required time, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint.
A judgement may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 15th day of October, 2026.
/s/ Mark Bellamy
Mark Bellamy, Plaintiff, Pro se
2945 Island View Drive NE
Salem, OR 97303
503-999-9090
mark.classact@gmail.com

Runs: October 28, 2026, November 4, 2026 and November 11, 2026

WNAXLP

Public Notice

Notice of Rate Increase
Water Customers of the City of Oshkosh Water Utility

This is to give you notice that the City of Oshkosh Water Utility will file an application on November 5, 2026, with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), for authority to increase water rates. Rates for general service will increase 3.0 percent. The increase is necessary to reduce the existing deficiency in present rates. The request is being made under Wis. Stat. 196.193. Rate increases granted under this statute do not require a public hearing. The effect of the increase for some selected customers is shown below. Public Fire Protection and Wholesale rates (if applicable) will also increase 3.0 percent.

Customer Classification	Meter Size	Cubic Feet	Existing Monthly Rate	Revised Monthly Rate
Average Residential	3/4	500	$40.44	$41.64
Large Residential	3/4	800	$58.74	$60.48
Multifamily	2	4,100	$279.27	$287.54
Commercial	1	2,600	$168.80	$173.77
Industrial	4	38,300	$2,240.47	$2,308.26

City of Oshkosh Water Utility anticipates that this rate increase will go into effect on January 1, 2027. If you have any questions about the rate increase request, call the City of Oshkosh Water Utility at (920) 232-5325.

Published: November 11, 2026
WNAXLP

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Gift of Gratitude

Taking a Moment to Say "Thank You!"



When was the last time someone said "Thank you!" to you? How did it make you feel?

Being thankful often takes time to slow down and think about the things and people that are most important to us.

Thinking about what we are grateful for brings happiness. It can help us feel better during hard times. Thanking people often makes them feel happy, relaxed and warm inside. And it often brings a smile to their face.

Thank You Notes Give Lasting Joy

Taking time to tell someone what you **appreciate** about them can take some time. And the message lasts an even longer time. A written note of gratitude is often displayed where it will be seen for days or even weeks. Sometimes a written thank you note is so special that people save them for the rest of their lives.



Write a Thank You Note

Who do you want to thank?

_____

What do you want to thank this person for?

_____

_____

Describe why you are thankful for this.

_____

_____

_____

How did this gift make you feel?

_____

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_____

_____

Gratitude Bingo

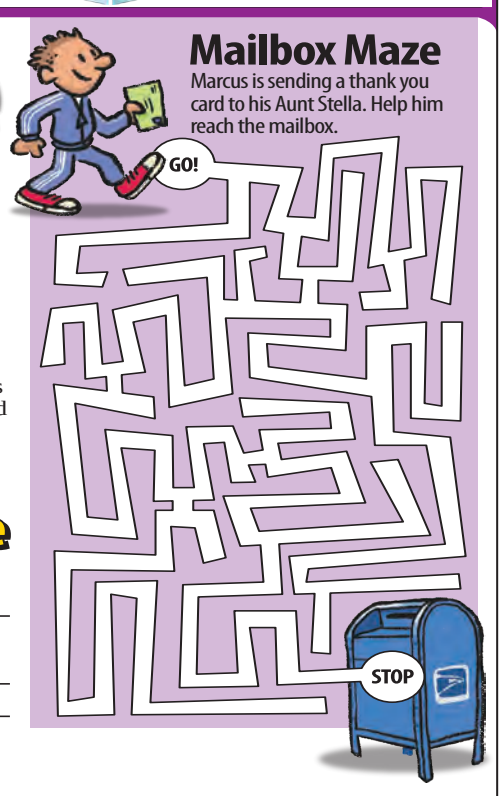
1. Cut out this Gratitude Bingo card.
2. Each time you do one of the activities, cross out the square.
3. Can you do all nine activities?

Say "Thank you!" to someone.	Write someone a thank you note.	Draw a picture of a person you're grateful for.
Write down three of your favorite healthy foods.	Sing or listen to one of your favorite songs.	Say "Thank you!" to someone.
Say "Thank you!" to someone.	Make a list of your favorite things.	Write a thank you note to your teacher.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.

Mailbox Maze

Marcus is sending a thank you card to his Aunt Stella. Help him reach the mailbox.



Extra! Extra!

Gratitude Poem

Look through the newspaper for a word that starts with each letter in the word **gratitude**. Use these words to write a poem about gratitude.

G _____
R _____
A _____
T _____
I _____
T _____
U _____
D _____
E _____

Standards Link: Language Arts: Spell grade-level words correctly.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Aww, man! My puppy tore up the thank you note I wrote to my grandpa. Can you number the parts in order?



( ) been wanting for a long
( ) came with two cards I've
( ) Pokemon card binder.
( ) Pokemon cards. The pack
(1) Dear Grandpa,
( ) time! I added them to my
(2) Thank you for the pack of
(8) Love, Devon

Double Double Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Then look for them in this week's *Kid Scoop* stories and activities.

APPRECIATE
BETTER
BRINGS
DAYS
FEEL
GIFT
HAPPY
NOTE
SAVE
SLOW
SMILE
TELL
THANK
WARM
WRITER
YOU

A	P	P	R	E	C	I	A	T	E
S	M	R	A	W	S	Y	A	D	W
B	M	Y	U	R	K	L	E	E	F
E	H	I	C	I	E	J	O	X	H
T	N	B	L	T	F	I	G	W	A
T	M	T	O	E	H	L	V	Y	P
E	K	N	J	R	W	A	Z	O	P
R	B	R	I	N	G	S	N	U	Y
L	L	E	T	S	A	V	E	K	W

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop Together

Just Because

Sometimes it's nice to surprise someone with a little thank you note to brighten their day. Color these cheerful notes and give them to people today!

THANK YOU FOR BEING AWESOME!

THANK YOU FOR BEING FRIENDLY!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING ME SMILE!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

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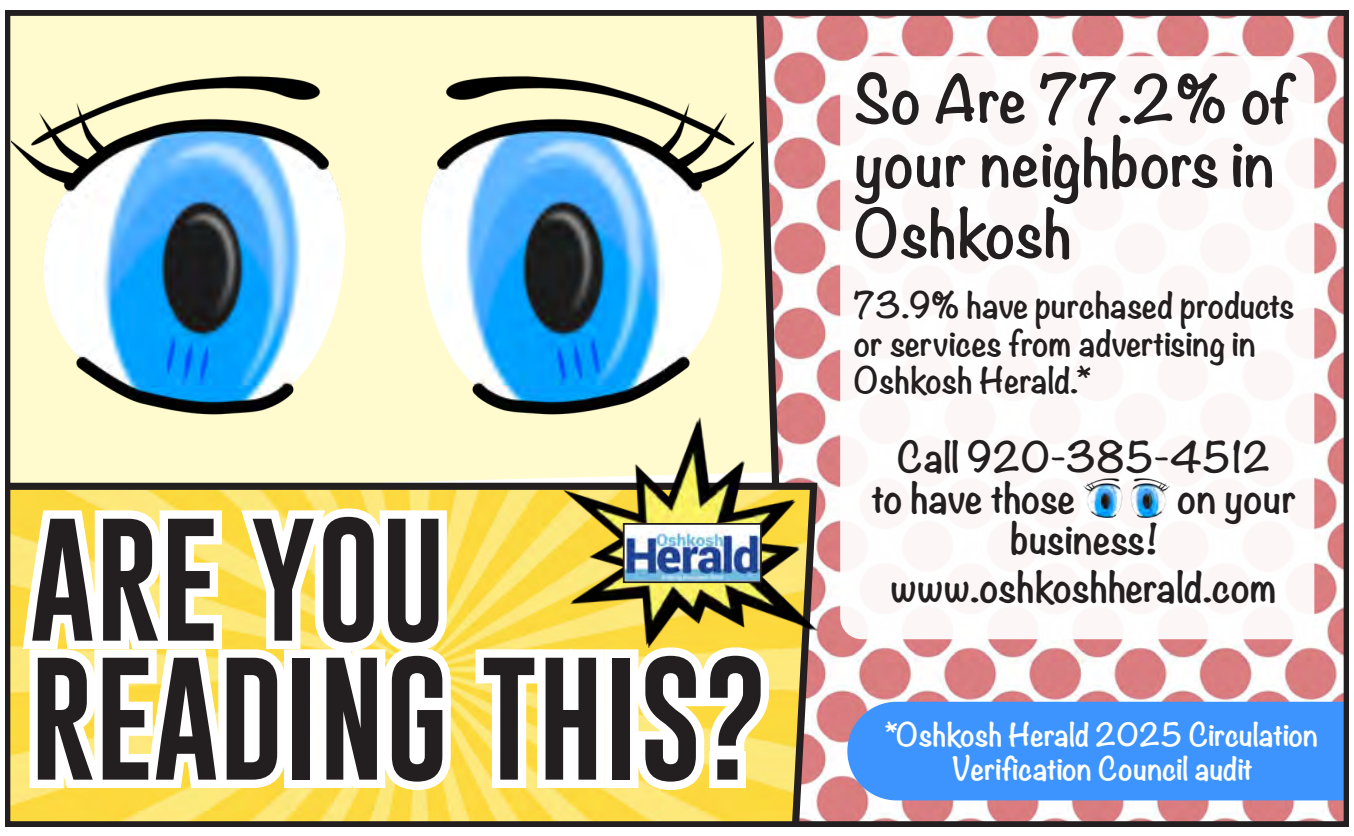
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Write On!

Thank You!

Write a thank you note to someone you know, or someone you'd like to know.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.



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